

**From:** Teppara, Dino <DTeppara@ed.sc.gov>  
**To:** Teppara, DinoDTeppara@ed.sc.gov  
**Date:** 7/15/2014 12:02:32 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Department Wins National Social Media Award

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Good afternoon!

I am sharing a press release below – I hope that you will follow us on one of our social media accounts!

Regards,  
Dino

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**From:** Burns, Anna  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 15, 2014 11:09 AM  
**To:** Burns, Anna  
**Cc:** Teppara, Dino  
**Subject:** Department Wins National Social Media Award



**MICK ZAIS**  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Press Release  
July 15, 2014  
Contact: Anna Burns, [ABurns@ed.sc.gov](mailto:ABurns@ed.sc.gov)  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Department Wins National Social Media Award

***COLUMBIA – The South Carolina Department of Education has won a 2014 Social Media Award of Excellence, from the National Association of Government Communicators (NAGC), for its Hour of Code campaign.***

“We’re thrilled to be honored with yet another national award for our expanded social media outreach,” said Dr. Mick Zais, State Superintendent of Education. “This Award of Excellence is a sign of the importance we place on reaching out to the public and providing them with valuable information, regardless of their preferred form of social media. I would like to congratulate Dino Teppara, our Director of Legislative and Public Affairs, for his leadership in winning this award and for creating a national presence for the South Carolina Department of Education on social media.”

The NAGC consists of top communicators in local, state, and federal government. Every year, NAGC gives out Blue Pencil & Gold Screens Awards to highlight superior communications efforts of government agencies. The South Carolina Department of Education was one of only three agencies that received this

award in the social media category. The department is the only state education agency in the nation that engages its audience using eight social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Google+, YouTube, Pinterest, and a weekly blog.

The specific campaign nominated for the award was the “Hour of Code” national initiative that took place in December 2013, which promoted the teaching of computer coding in South Carolina schools. This is the second national social media award the department has won for this campaign. Earlier this year, Teppara won an award for best social media in the state from the Public Relations Society of America’s South Carolina Chapter.

Follow the agency on [Twitter](#) and like our [Facebook page](#) to get the latest news and information. We have a weekly [blog](#), [Instagram](#) account, [Pinterest](#) page, [Google+ page](#), and we’re on [LinkedIn](#).

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**Anna Burns**

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